

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☐

Property Name: Garden of Eden Inventory Number: WA-I-377
Address: 15935 Speilman Road Historic district: ☐ yes ☒ no
City: Williamsport Zip Code: 21795 County: Washington
USGS Quadrangle(s): Williamsport
Property Owner: The Bowman Group Tax Account ID Number: 02-008424
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 149 Tax Map Number: 56
Project: I-81 West Virginia State Line to Pennsylvania State Line Agency: Maryland State Highway Administration
Agency Prepared By: State Highway Administration
Preparer's Name: Becky Kermes Date Prepared: 06/22/2004
Documentation is presented in: _____
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☒ Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property: _____
Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: ☐ yes ☐ no Listed: ☐ yes ☐ no
Site visit by MHT Staff ☐ yes ☒ no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

In August 2001, the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) concurred that the Garden of Eden was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criterion A for its association with the history of agriculture in Washington County, and Criterion C as an example of Queen Anne architecture. The proposed National Register boundary included the entire tax parcel consisting of 71.13 acres.

Due to further investigations of this property, it is believed that the Garden of Eden is still eligible for the NRHP, but with a revised NRHP boundary. A field visit was made to the property on June 17th, 2004 in association with the subject project. It was noted that just beyond the house and barn there is an extensive containerized cargo facility. Apparently this facility has been in existence since 2001, but was not addressed in previous documentation.

The circa 1855 Garden of Eden house and barn still retain integrity of location, design, materials, and workmanship, however, based on the current boundary with the cargo facility located in the middle of the parcel, there is diminished integrity of setting, feeling and association.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended ☒
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

MHT Comments: *MHT concurs with revised boundaries for the reasons stated.*
Am. D. [Signature] 8/3/04
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date
[Signature] 8/3/04
Reviewer, National Register Program Date

200402357

Since the containerized cargo facility is so large and does not relate to the property's significance, a revised NRHP boundary based on well described visual qualities would capture only those aspects that truly illustrate the Garden of Eden's significance as it relates to the agricultural experience in Washington County and as a good example of the Queen Anne style. Further, the revised boundary would more clearly articulate the integrity of setting, feeling, and association.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G

MHT Comments:

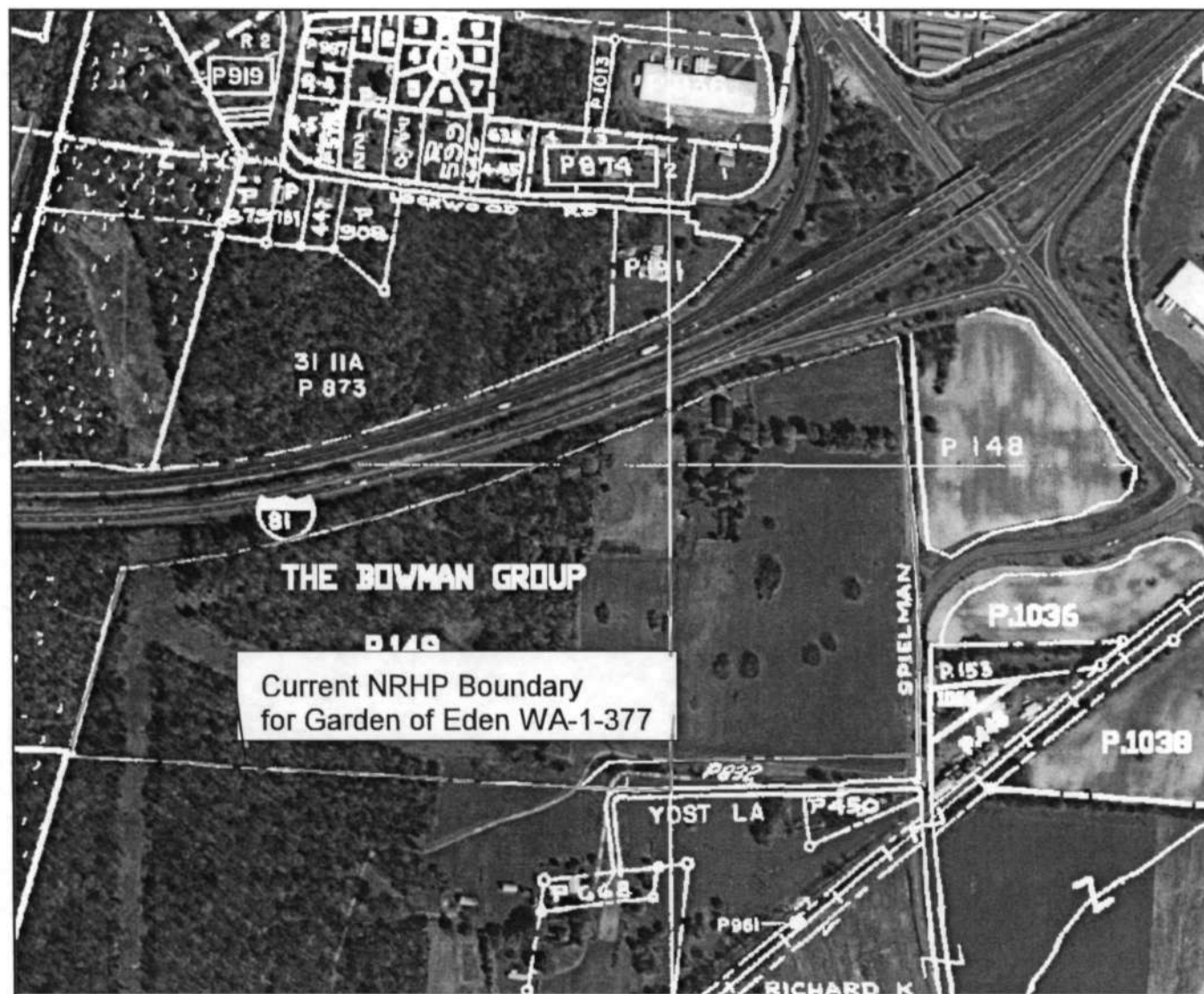
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services_____
Date_____
Reviewer, National Register Program_____
Date

UPDATED AERIAL PHOTO OF THE GARDEN OF EDEN (WA-1-377)



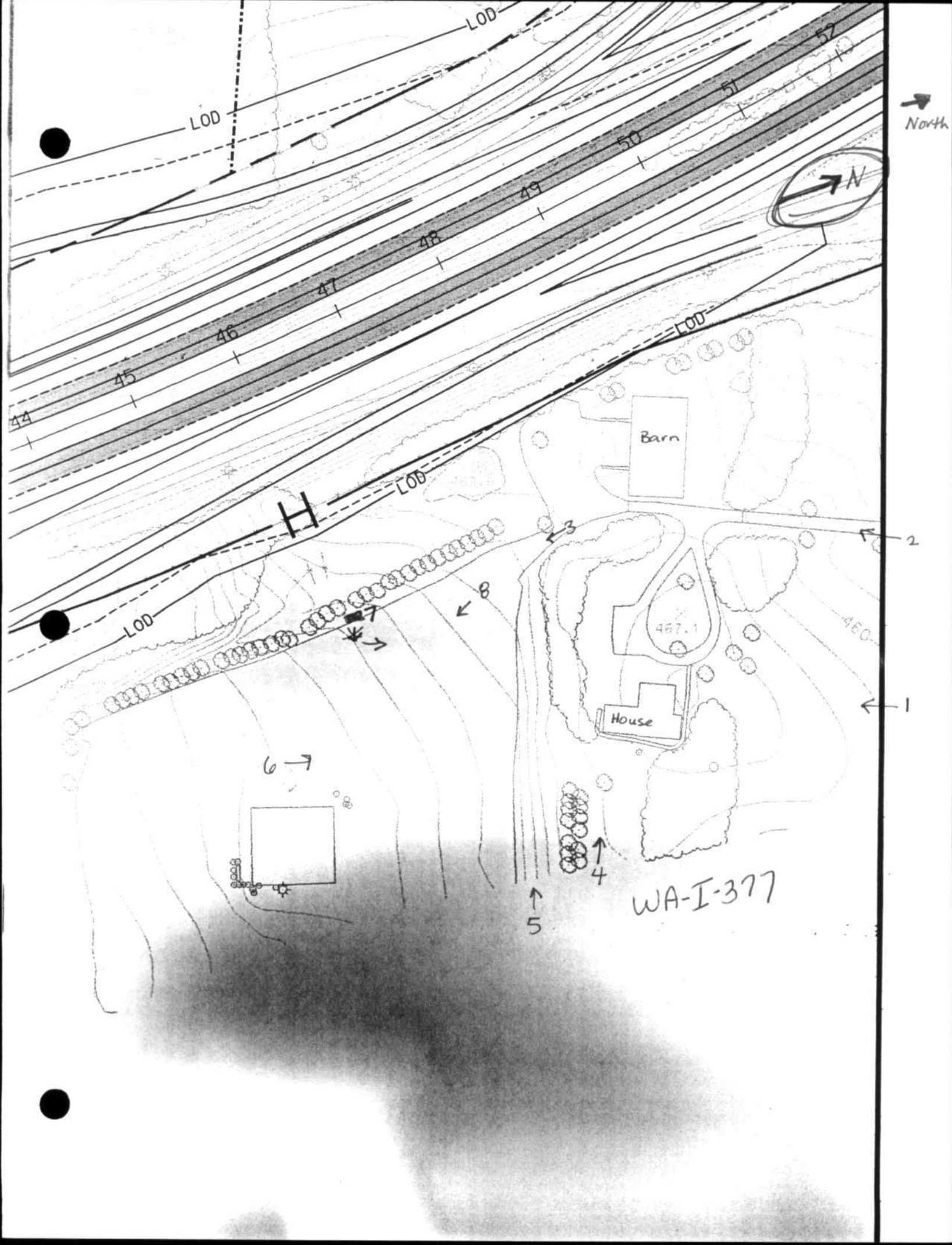
Updated Aerial View of the Garden of Eden (2004)
The Proposed New Boundary would follow the legal lines as much as possible, but bisect the property to separate the house and barn from the cargo containers.

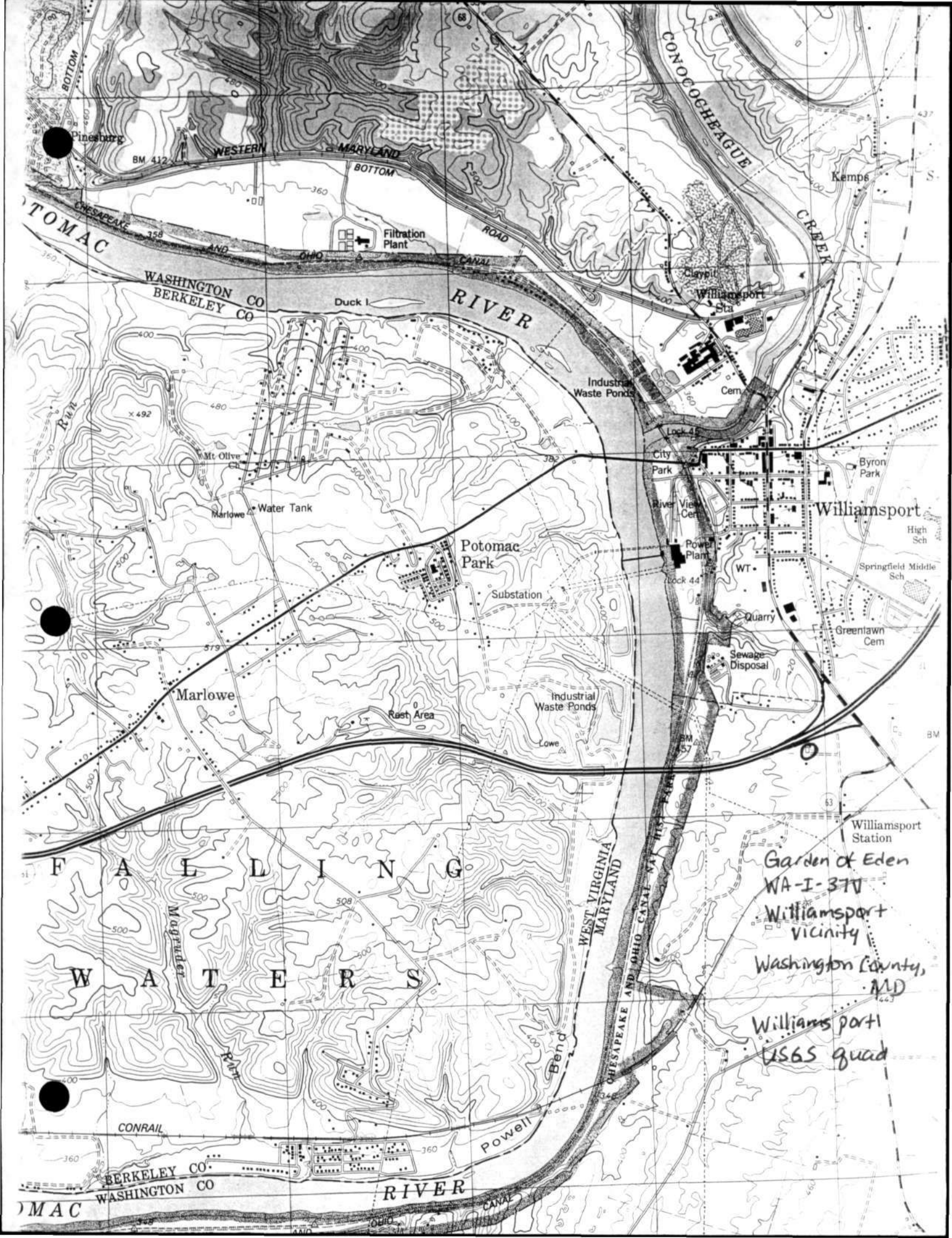
Current NRHP Boundary for WA-1-377 (2001) I-81 West Virginia State Line to Pennsylvania State Line



0.2 0 0.2 0.4 Miles





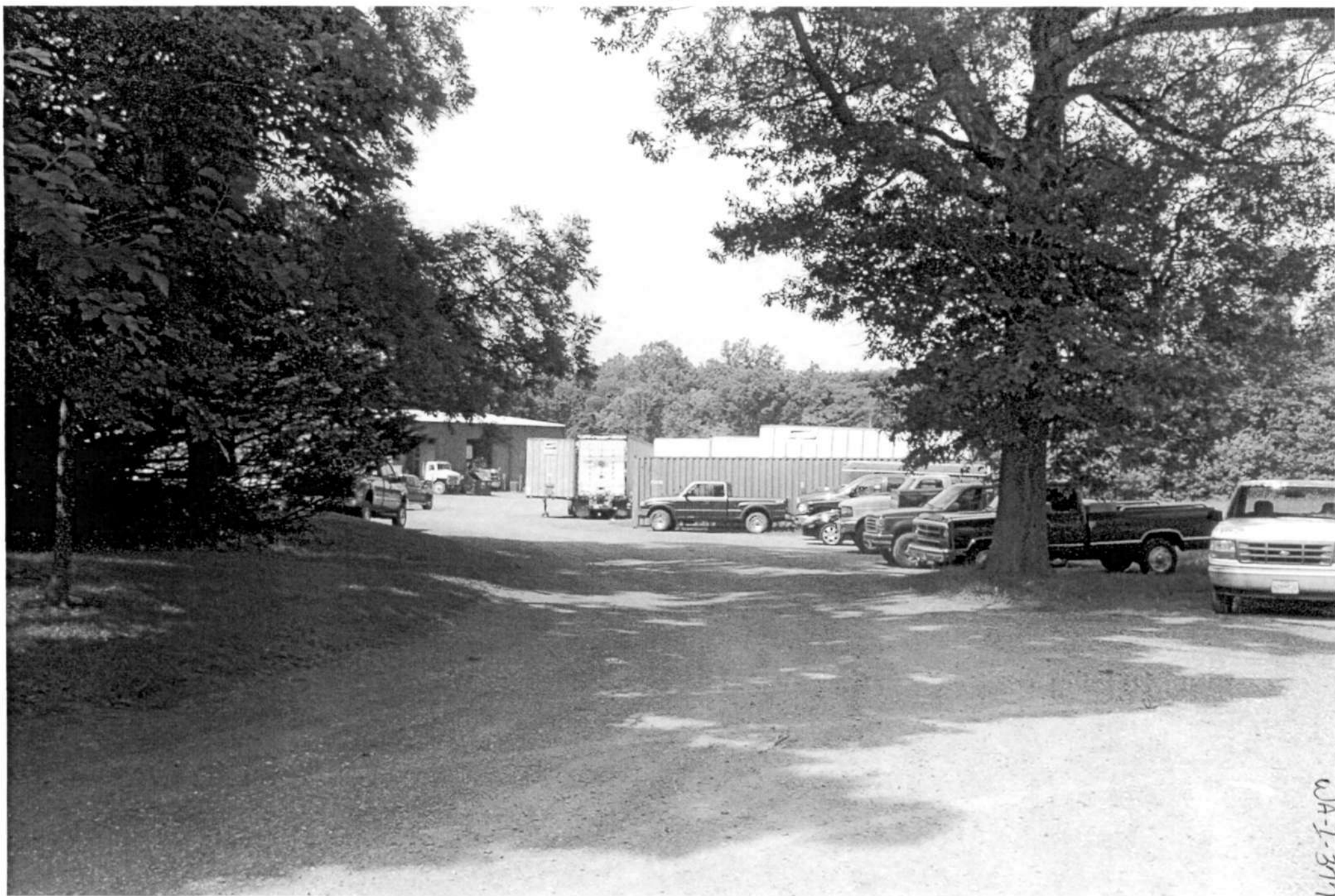




WA-1-377



WA-I-377



WA-I-377



WA-E-377



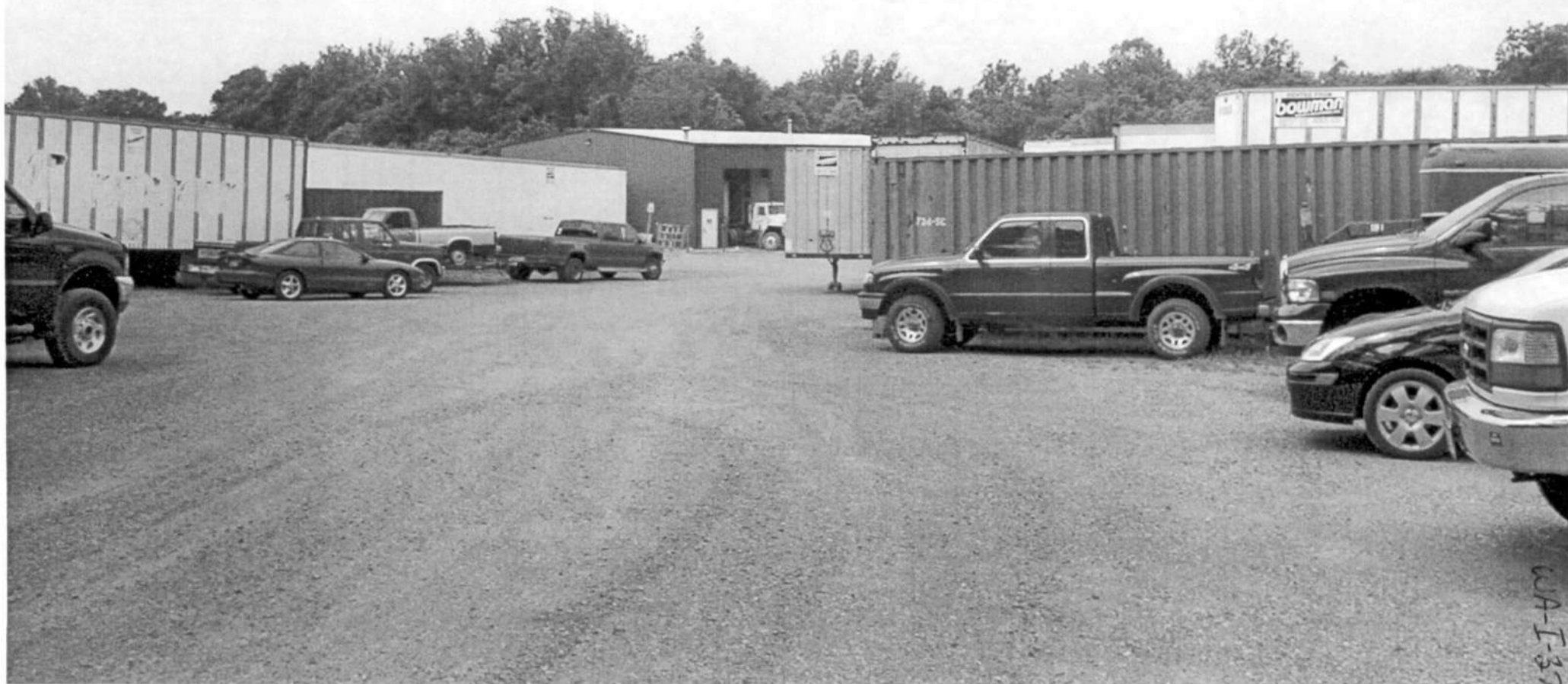
WATSON



WA-E-377



WA-I-302



WA-I-371

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☒
no ☐

Property Name: Garden of Eden Inventory Number: WA-I-377

Address: 15935 Spellman Road City: Williamsport Zip Code:

County: Washington County USGS Topographic Map: Williamsport

Owner: The Bowman Group 10228 Governor Land Blvd Williamsport, MD 21795-4028

Tax Parcel Number: N/A Tax Map Number: N/A Tax Account ID Number: N/A

Project: SP003B48 Agency: State Highway Administration(SHA)

Site visit by SHA Staff: no ☒ yes Name: Liz Buxton Date: July 13, 2001

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility **not** recommended ☐

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Is the property located within a historic district? ☒ no ☐ Yes Name of district:

Is district listed? ☐ No ☐ yes Determined eligible? ☐ No ☐ yes District Inventory Number:

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project review and compliance files

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

According to the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) Inventory Form (attached), the Garden of Eden Farm includes a house and barn on 71.13 acres which was originally part of the "Conococheague Manor" and "Garden of Eden" land grants. The 2-1/2 story, brick multi-gabled residence has a steeply pitched overhanging slate roof and asymmetrically plan not a typical style for a rural house in Washington County. Built in the mid 19th century (c.1855 according to the tax records), this large Queen Anne style displays some unusually fine woodwork. The barn is a good example of a frame bank barn. It has a stone foundation and unusual decorative trim and window heads over louvered ventilators.

The Garden of Eden Farm is associated with the Agricultural and Trade period (1850-1910) in Washington County and retains enough integrity to illustrate late nineteenth century Queen Anne architecture. The Garden of Eden Farm is significant for its architecture and association with the history of agriculture in Washington County. It meets both criteria A and C and is recommended eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

It is recommended that the entire tax parcel (71.13 acres) be included in the National Register of Historic Places.

Prepared by: Liz Buxton Prepared: July 30, 2001

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility not recommended <input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>A</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>B</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>C</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>D</u>	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> <u>A</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>B</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>C</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>D</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>E</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>F</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>G</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>None</u>
Comments: <u>✓-entered</u>	
<u>Andrew Lewis</u>	<u>10/15/01</u>
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	Date
<u>B. Kuntz</u>	<u>10/24/01</u>
Reviewer, NR program	Date

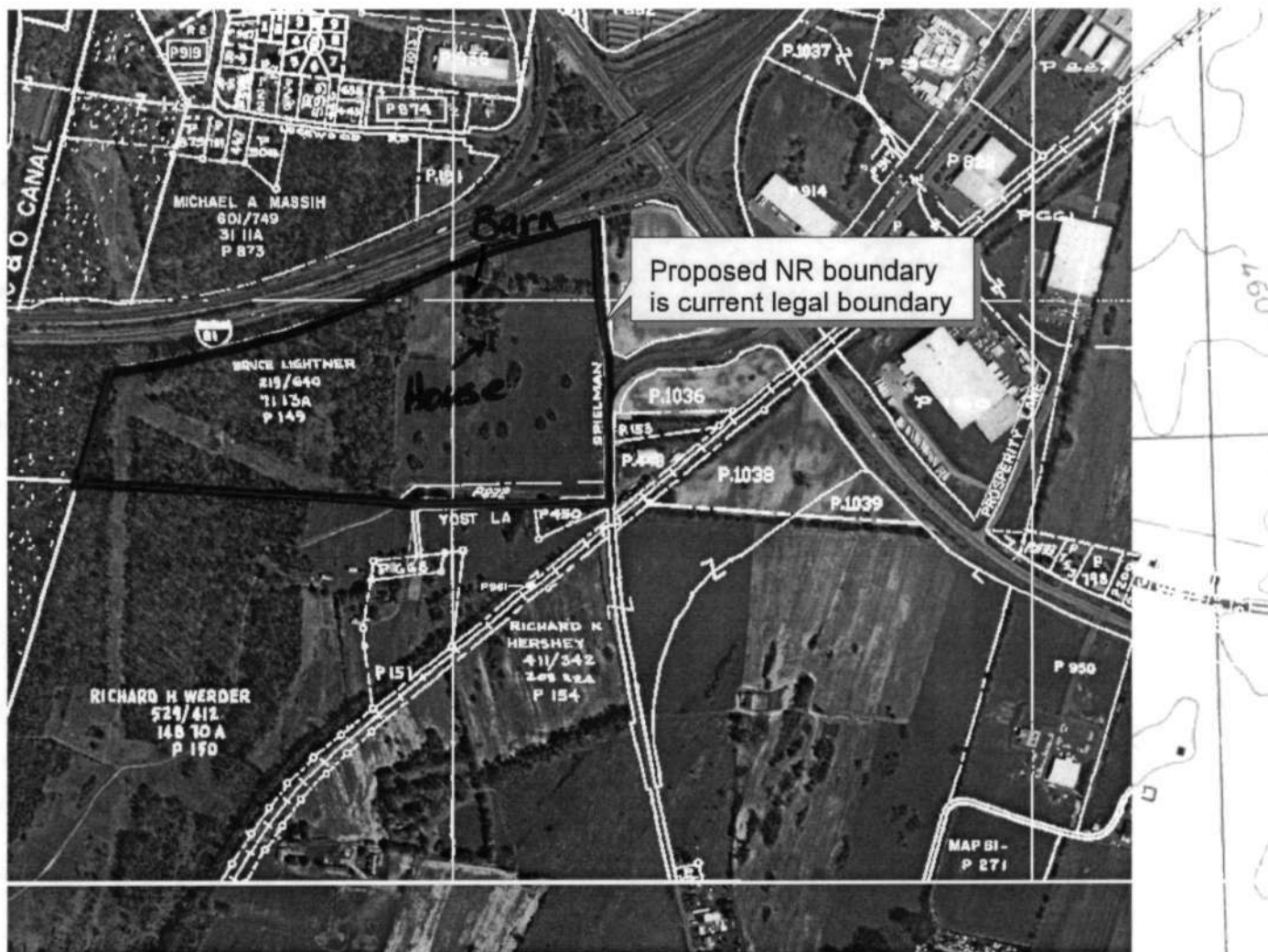
200103391

Garden of Eden Farm (WA-I-377)

15935 Spielman Road

Washington County

Williamsport Quad



0.3 0 0.3 0.6 Miles

- Roads
- CO
 - IS
 - MD
 - OP
 - SR
 - US
 - MU
 - GV
 - USGS Topo Quad Index
 - DOQQ Index
 - County





WA-1-377

Garden of Eden

Washington Co.

C. Buxton

July 2001

MO SHPO

Looking South

1 of 6

AGE 01 153 NNNB

1



WA-1-377

Garden of Eden
Washington Co.

L. Buxton

July 2001

MD SHPO

Looking SW

2 of 6

AUG 01 160 NNNA

2.



WA-1-377

Garden of Eden

Washington Co

L. Buxton

July 2001

MS SHDO

Looking NE

3.66

AUG 01 160 NNND

3.66



WA-1-377

Garden of Eden

Washington Co.

L. Buxton

July 2001

MD SHPO

Looking West

4 of 6

AUG 01 153 NNNB

3.11.11



3 13:13

WA-1-377

Garden of Eden, Barn

Washington

L Buxton

July 2001

MD SHPO

Looking West

5 of 6

AUG 01 160 UNND



WA-1-377

Garden of Eden, Barn

Washington

L. Buxton

July 2001

MD SHPO

Looking West

6 of 6

AUG 01 1:50 PM

ENCLOSURE

ABSTRACT

WA-I-377

Garden of Eden

Williamsport Vicinity

private

19th Century

"Garden of Eden" farm is significant for its architecture and for its association with the history of agriculture in Washington County. The existing fabric of the house would suggest a construction date during the last quarter of the 19th century. It is a large brick structure with many gables and a steeply pitched overhanging slate roof, and displays some unusually fine woodwork of the late 19th century period not frequently found among Washington County's country houses.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

WA-I-377
District 2
Map 56
Parcel 149
MGI # 2205845635
1410

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Garden of Eden

2 LOCATIONSTREET & NUMBER (Williamsport Spellman Road)
Maryland route 63 at I-81

CITY, TOWN

☒ VICINITY OF Williamsport

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Washington

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE
☐ COMMERCIAL
☐ EDUCATIONAL
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSEUM
☐ PARK
☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Bruce C. Lightner

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Route # 1

CITY, TOWN

Williamsport

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21795

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Court House

Liber #: 219

Folio #: 640

STREET & NUMBER

West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Maryland Historical Trust Survey #4060

DATE

Summer 1967

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**☒ EXCELLENT☐ DETERIORATED☐ GOOD☐ RUINS☐ FAIR☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☐ UNALTERED☒ ALTERED < 50%**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE _____**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The farm known as "Garden of Eden" is located between Maryland route 63, and I-81 just south of Williamsport in Washington County. The buildings are situated on an area of level limestone ground and face east.

The house is a two story multi-gabled brick structure with a steeply pitched overhanging roof. It rests on fieldstone foundations. At the front or east elevation the house is three bays wide with the southern most bay set in a two story projecting gable. At the south elevation, the house is two bays wide at the front or east section with a three bay wing inset from the plane of the south wall, extending to the west. This wing is lower in height than the front section. The north elevation, a gable end wall of the front section is two bays wide. Brick at all elevations are laid in American bond with segmental arches above openings in the front section and flat arches above those in the wing.

Openings are aligned with each other in the walls. All windows in the front section have segmentally arched heads. Some at the second story have two over two pane double hung sashes. Others are double windows with single pane sashes divided by wide mullions. The window in the north end bay of the front elevation is elongated with double triple hung single pane sashes. Most windows are flanked with pairs of shutters with movable louvers. In the east, west and south slopes of the roof, aligned with the other windows are small dormers with steeply pitched overhanging gable rooves. At the east end of the south elevation is a one story semi hexagonal wooden projecting bay with a flat roof and bracketed cornice. In the wing at the rear are rectangular windows with four over four light sashes. A porch along its south elevation has partially been enclosed with German siding.

The main entrance is located in the central bay of the front elevation. Like the windows, it has a segmentally arched head and includes a single pane transom. The door is double, each half having a large round arched single glass pane and is flanked by louvered shutters. It is sheltered by a one story, two bay porch supported by square posts. Another entrance is located in the south elevation of the wing.

The roof of the house is sheathed with slates in an imbricated pattern having horizontal bands of scalloped slates which appear nearly centered on the roof slopes. The roof extends some distance beyond the end walls as well as overhanging at the eaves. Chimneys protrude from the ridge, and from the east and west slopes of the roof at the front section. These chimneys are of brick with projecting patterns and corbeling. Another chimney is located inside the west end wall of the wing.

The interior of the house is divided by a central stair hall featuring a curved stair open to the attic. Decorative carving appears at the ends of the risers. Generally, the rooms have high ceilings with massive woodwork. Fire places are located on interior walls of the rooms.

A frame bank barn rests on fieldstone foundations. In its walls are louvered ventilators with Victorian applied trim. Above the ventilators are scalloped applied pieces with cut clover leaves or shamrocks.

The buildings are in excellent condition with the farm containing 103.42 acres. It is made up of parts of the land grants "Conococheague Manor" and "Garden of Eden."

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

"Garden of Eden" Farm is significant for its architecture and for its association with the history of agriculture in Washington County. The existing fabric of the house would suggest a construction date during the last quarter of the 19th century. It is a large brick structure with many gables and a steeply pitched overhanging slate roof, and displays some unusually fine woodwork of the late 19th century period not frequently found among Washington County's country houses. According to family tradition, however, the house is supposed to incorporate parts from an earlier structure. Indeed, it is possible that the west wing of the house where an earlier style of woodwork can be seen may be older than the front section. The barn also has unusual trim.

According to Washington County Land Records the farm was part of the land willed by Otho Holland Williams who died in 1794 to Mary Emma Williams. Otho H. Williams owned a great quantity of land in the Williamsport vicinity including "Rose Hill Manor" (WA-I-374) which adjoins this farm to the south and "Springfield Farm" (WA-I-024) just north of Williamsport. In 1871 the property was owned by Alonzo Berry who sold it to Louisa Jane Berry in that year. (WMckk4/87). In 1880 it was purchased by Charles W. Humrichouse for \$5050.56, containing 121 1/4 acres. (80/155). Charles W. Humrichouse lived at Springfield Farm but owned this property apparently into the early 20th century. It was purchased by the present owners in 1942.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Washington County Land Records.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 103.42 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Washington County Historical Sites Survey

DATE

November 1977

STREET & NUMBER

County Office Building, 33 West Washington Street

TELEPHONE

791-3065

CITY OR TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

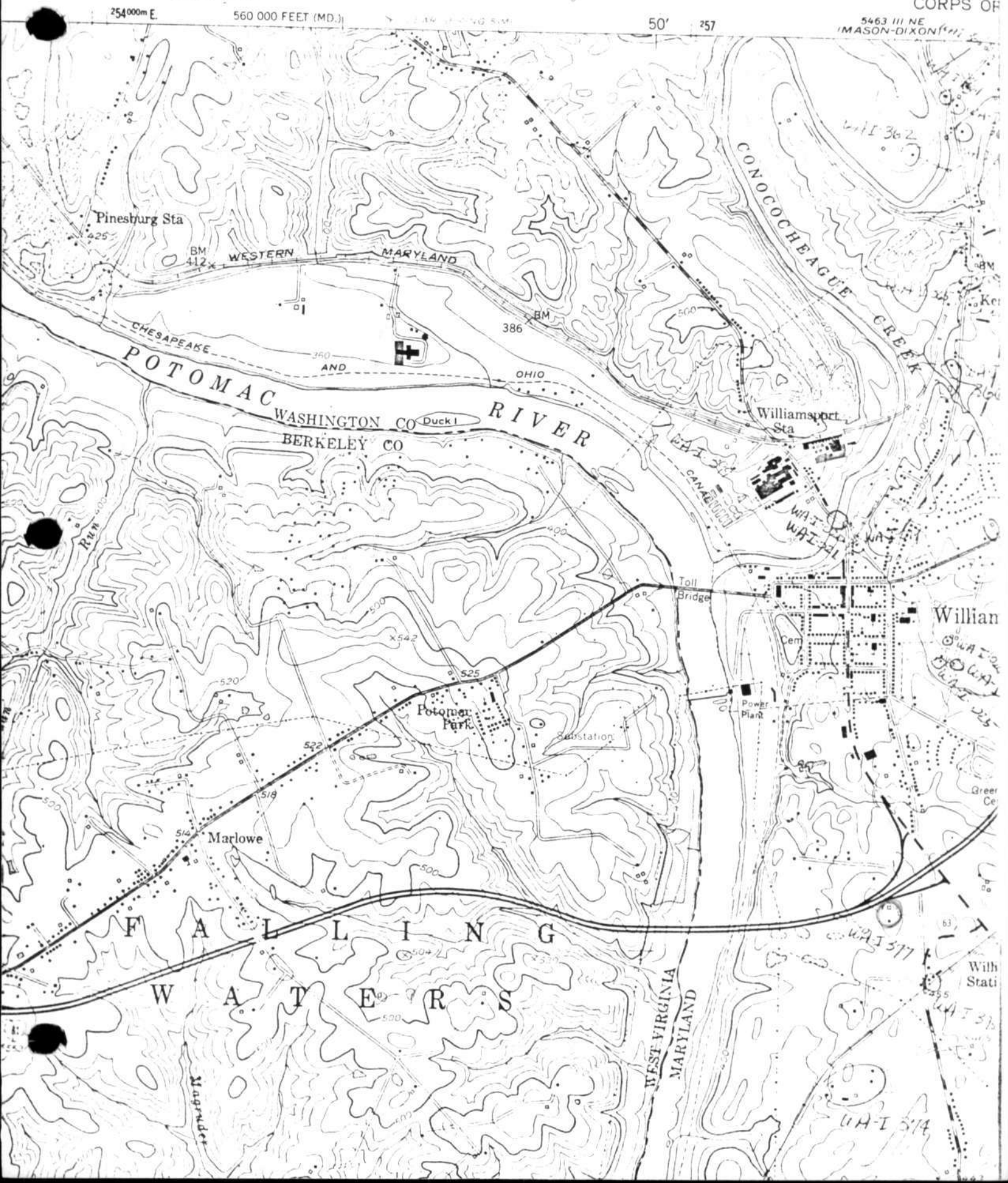
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

WA-I-377

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Williamsport quadrangle

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS





WA-I-377

Barn, NE.

April, 1975

Garden of Eden

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-I-377

N.E.

April, 1975

Garden of Eden

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-I-377

NW

April, 1975

Garden of Eden

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-I-377
E

April 1975
Garden of Eden

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-I-377

S.

April, 1975

Garden of Eden

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-1-377

Garden of Eden

Garden of Eden

WA - I - 377

15935 Spielman Road

Keech / King

7-7-93

north



WA-1-377

Garden of Eden

Garden of Eden

WA-I-377

15935 Spielman Road

Keech / King

7-7-93

Northeast



WA-1-377
Garden of Eden

Garden of Eden

WA-1-377

15935 Spielman Road

Keech / King

7-7-93

East